

Amendments to the Claims

1. -23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) A computer system for in-service monitoring of a user screening medical cases comprising:

a case stack of real cases to be reviewed by the user;

a library of known cases;

a user interface component for requesting a consecutive case, for display of the consecutive case, and for entering a diagnosis of the consecutive case;

a program component for receiving a request for the consecutive case from the user interface, the program component selecting the consecutive case from the case stack of real cases or the library of known cases for the display and the diagnosis; and

a feedback component for outputting a message to the user if the user diagnosis of a selected known case is incorrect.

25. (New) A computer system as set forth in claim 24 further comprising a pseudo-random component for generation of a pseudo-random number, the program component being coupled to the pseudo-random component for determining the selection of the consecutive case from the case stack of real cases or the library of known cases based on the output of the pseudo-random component.

26. (New) A computer system as set forth in claim 24 further comprising a session preparation component for initializing the case stack and for specifying an absolute number or a percentage of known cases to be selected by the program component during the screening of the case stack by the user.

27. (New) A computer system as set forth in claim 26 wherein the session preparation component enables specifying a category for the known cases.

28. (New) A computer system as set forth in claim 23 further comprising a user action component for tracing of user input actions and of the feedback component.

29. (New) A computer system as set forth in claim 28 further comprising a user action report generation component being coupled to the user action component for generating a user action report for the purposes of quality monitoring and assurance.

30. (New) A computer system as set forth in claim 24 further comprising a mode selection component for selecting a random mode or a fixed mode for the operation of the program component.

31. (New) A method for in-service monitoring of a user screening medical cases comprising:

- providing a case stack of real cases to be reviewed by the user;
- providing a library of known cases;
- requesting the display of a consecutive case;
- selecting the consecutive case from the case stack of real cases or the library of known cases for display;
- entering a diagnosis of the displayed consecutive case; and
- providing a feedback to the user if the diagnosis of a selected known case is incorrect.

32. (New) A method as set forth in claim 31 further comprising selecting the consecutive case to be displayed based on a pseudo-random number.

33. (New) A method as set forth in claim 31 further comprising selecting the consecutive case to be displayed based on a predefined fixed sequence.

34. (New) A method as set forth in claim 31 further comprising preparing a screening

session by specifying an absolute number or percentage of the known cases to be selected for display during the screening of the case stack.

35. (New) A method as set forth in claim 34 further comprising specifying a category of the known case to be displayed during the session preparation.

36. (New) A method as set forth in claim 31 further comprising tracing of the user input operations and of the diagnosis entered by the user.

37. (New) A method as set forth in claim 36 further comprising generating a report for the purposes of training or quality control and assurance based on a user action database.

38. (New) A method as set forth in claim 31 further comprising selecting a random or a fixed mode for the selection of the consecutive case for display.

39. (New) A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, the computer program comprising program components for carrying out the following steps, when the program is run on the computer:

- providing a case stack of real cases to be reviewed by a user;
- providing a library of know cases;
- requesting the display of a consecutive case;
- selecting the consecutive case from the case stack of real cases or the library of know cases;
- entering a diagnosis of the displayed consecutive case; and
- providing a feedback to the user if the diagnosis of a selected known case is incorrect.